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JW

Dear Paul,

8/27/72

Eventually, somebody will send me Graham's piece from the Times. You may see it in syndication, if not in your local papers, then from N.O., before I do. Hearing it was enough to last me for a while. I am in no rush to see it! But if you want a copy as it appeared in the Times and do not get it from any other source, let me know and I'll provide it. I do not intend to be patronizing and I am not in any way or degree bitter in telling you I recall the -shall I call it lecture? - on "craziness". I again suggest, and again without passion, that it is past time for you to get a new dictionary. If this is not your need, then perhaps it is the only problem of placing horse and cart. I see no need for correspondence on this, unless you hold that we have benefitted from this mess that was unforeseen only by those who would not see. Nor do I see any need for apologies or self-flagellation. What I do see is the need for the opening of closed minds, for the understanding by the young that there is much they have not yet experienced, and for a bit more willingness to profit from the experience of those who have paid for it to get it. The cost is sometimes great pain. It is better to get the benefit without paying the pain. Santayana said it like it is, he who doesn't learn from history is doomed to relive it.

I am sorry that, with the poor quality of the new carbon paper I have used I do not have the copies I need. Before learning of the Times piece I had written the first two pages with fewer copies. So, I ask, please, that after you read this you send it to Mary for her to return to me for my Cyril file. Both of you may copy. This is, alas, the first carbon, so you can see what kind of good buy I got on that carbon paper. I am keeping the original in my 1972 Release file, under Autopsy, if you want a copy to keep and can't make it from this, so I can make you one. I will, of course, be glad to get copies of any coverage you see...Most of the day has passed and nobody has called except this one correspondent. From this I take it we have gotten the worst of two worlds; bad coverage in the Times, not a bit of good coverage elsewhere. I do not intend to take time to illuminate what may be unclear to those who will not respect my not-new conditions. However, I would encourage you not to take as the literal truth what is in Graham's story and is attributed to those who can qualify as experts. If Cyril was not misquoted, even he erred -even seeing the stuff. Johnson and Marshall, too. Sincerely, Harold